

## United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

YUSILL SCRIBNER, REBEKAH CARMICHAEL,

JANICE OH

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(212) 637-2600

FBI

JIM MARGOLIN, MONICA MCLEAN PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (212) 384-2720, 2715

NYPD

PAUL BROWNE

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(646) 610-8989

## SEVEN ARRESTED IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA FOR ECSTASY AND KETAMINE SMUGGLING CONSPIRACY

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, JOSEPH M. DEMAREST, JR., the Assistant Director-in-Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's New York Field Division, and RAYMOND W. KELLY, the Police Commissioner of the City of New York, announced the arrests early this morning of seven individuals for conspiracy to smuggle ecstasy and ketamine from Canada into the United States. Two defendants were arrested in New York, one in Boston, and four were arrested in Canada on provisional arrest warrants based on the charges filed here. Three other defendants charged in the case remain at large.

According to the criminal Complaints unsealed today in Manhattan federal court:

The defendants were part of a conspiracy to distribute large quantities of ecstasy and ketamine from Canada into the United States, including New York City. Different members of the conspiracy had different roles: for example, couriers transported the ecstasy and ketamine from distributors in Canada into the United States, where the drugs were sold at various locations in Manhattan; other members of the conspiracy returned to Canada

with the proceeds of the drug sales, divided among several individuals to avoid detection by law enforcement agents at the border.

Four defendants -- KANG MING YU, a/k/a "Tony," CHUN MING CHUCK, a/k/a "Ah Ming," a/k/a "Chun Ming Zhau," KWONG YIU KWAN, a/k/a "Stanley Kwan," and SASHO SEVIL SEVOV -- were arrested this morning in Canada on provisional arrest warrants issued at the request of United States authorities. (All names are written with the family name last). DUNG TRAN, a/k/a "Ah Yuen," was arrested this morning in Boston Massachusetts. Two other defendants -- DAVID HUYNH and QI XIA CHEN, a/k/a "Ah Kai," -- were arrested this morning in New York City. THE SEND HA, a/k/a "Ah Sing," a/k/a "Shing Gor," HA DONG LU, a/k/a "Tommy," a/k/a "Ah Dong," and WAN LAN CHEN, a/k/a "Ah Tong," a/k/a "Tong Chen," a/k/a "Hou Chen," remain at large. One additional defendant, against whom charges are expected to be filed later today, was also taken into custody in New York City.

HA, YU, CHUCK, KWAN, LU, TRAN, WAN LAN CHEN, HUYNH, and SEVOV are each charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute ketamine and ecstasy, which carries a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison. QI XIA CHEN is charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute ecstasy, which carries a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison. SANN is charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute ketamine, which carries a maximum potential penalty of 5 years in prison. HA, YU, CHUCK, KWAN, and SEVOV each are also charged with one count of importing ketamine into the United States, which carries a maximum potential sentence of 5 years in prison.

CHUCK, 43, KWAN, 53, YU, 47, and HA, 37, reside in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. SEVOV, 31, resides in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. HUYNH, 24, resides in Randolph, Massachusetts. QI XIA CHEN, 43, resides Manhattan, New York. TRAN, 40, resides in Boston, Massachusetts. LU, 36, resides in Randolph, Massachusetts. WAN LAN CHEN, 53, resides in Manhattan, New York. SANN, 27, resides in Holliston, Massachusetts.

The investigation is being conducted in New York City by the Asian Criminal Enterprises Task Force, composed of special agents with the FBI and detectives with the New York City Police Department, in cooperation with the Asian Organized Crime Task Force in Toronto, Canada, comprised of officers with the Toronto Police Service, Ontario Provincial Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, York Regional Police Service, Peel Regional Police Service, and the Canada Border Services Agency. Mr. DASSIN praised the investigative work and cooperation of these

law enforcement agencies. Additionally, Mr. DASSIN expressed his appreciation to the Federal Department of Justice of Canada for its assistance.

Assistant United States Attorney STEVE C. LEE is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges and allegations contained in the Complaints are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

09-086 ###